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(54) **SYSTEMS AND METHODS TO PROTECT AGAINST INADVERTANT ACTUATION OF VIRTUAL BUTTONS ON TOUCH SURFACES**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Systems and methods of defending and/or guarding against inadvertent actuation of a virtual button upon a touch sensitive screen and/or device. A virtual button may be a touch sensor, set of touch sensors and/or touch areas upon a touch screen—the actuation of which may be associated with the execution of a process. In one embodiment, a virtual button may comprise a first touch area and a second guarding area. Certain touches and other conditions within the first touch area and/or second guarding area may be interpreted by the device as either intentional or inadvertent. If the touches are interpreted as inadvertent, then the process associated with the virtual button may be suppressed.